

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 9, which starts with "These objects and others according.....claim 1."

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 7, as follows:

Other important variables are:

— ~~b2, i.e. outlet width of the impeller;~~

— ~~b3, i.e. width of the diffuser;~~

- s, i.e. strength of the blade 12, provided by the ratio between p and c, in other words between the diffuser blading pitch and the chord of the blade 12.